## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

A method for utilizing a shorthand term dictionary service, comprising:
 entering a shorthand term to be defined directly from within a document
creation application;

accessing a dictionary service; attempting to obtain a definition of the shorthand term; and displaying the definition of the shorthand term within the application.

- 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the shorthand term is a Short Messaging Service (SMS) term.
- 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein entering the shorthand term to be defined directly from within the application further comprises entering the shorthand term within a search box.
- 4. The method of Claim 1, wherein entering the shorthand term to be defined directly from within the application further comprises selecting a shorthand term from within the application.
- 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein accessing the dictionary service, further comprises accessing at least one dictionary over a network that is searched.
  - 6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the network is the Internet.
- 7. The method of Claim 5, wherein displaying the definition of the shorthand term within the application further comprises making the definition selectable from within the application.
- 8. The method of Claim 6, further comprising inserting the definition into the application when the definition is selected.

9. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for utilizing a shorthand term dictionary service, the instructions comprising:

entering a SMS shorthand term to be defined directly from within a document creation application;

accessing a dictionary service over a network;
obtaining a definition of the shorthand term;
providing the definition to the application; and
displaying the definition of the shorthand term within the application.

- 10. The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, wherein entering the SMS shorthand term to be defined directly from within the application further comprises entering the shorthand term within a search box.
- 11. The computer-readable medium of Claim 12, wherein entering the SMS shorthand term to be defined directly from within the application further comprises selecting a shorthand term from within the application.
- 12. The computer-readable medium of Claim 8, wherein accessing the dictionary service, further comprises accessing at least one dictionary of shorthand terms.
- 13. The computer-readable medium of Claim 12, wherein the network is the Internet.
- 14. The computer-readable medium of Claim 12, wherein displaying the definition of the shorthand term within the application further comprises making the definition selectable from within the application.
- 15. The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, further comprising inserting the definition into the application when the definition is selected.

16. A system for a shorthand dictionary service, comprising:

a first computing device that is coupled to a network and that includes a dictionary service application that is configured to perform actions, including:

receiving a shorthand term;

searching for a definition of the shorthand term within a dictionary; and

providing a result based on the search;

a second computing device coupled to the network and having a display, and an application having a writing area and a search box, wherein the application is configured to perform actions, including:

receiving the shorthand term directly from within the application to be defined;

sending the term to the first computing device; receiving the result; and displaying the result.

- 17. The system of Claim 16, wherein receiving the shorthand term directly from within the application to be defined, further comprises receiving the shorthand term from the search box.
- 18. The system of Claim 16, wherein receiving the shorthand term directly from within the application to be defined, further comprises selecting the shorthand term from within writing area of the application.
  - 19. The system of Claim 16, wherein the network is the Internet.
- 20. The system of Claim 19, wherein displaying the result, further comprises displaying the result such that a definition of the shorthand term is selectable.
- 21. The system of Claim 20, further comprising inserting the definition into the writing area of the application when the definition is selected.